

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

People discuss literary works with any complexity life issues, then the literary work with humans has a relationship that can not be separated. Literature is a reflection of in terms of human life which includes express attitudes, behavior, thought, knowledge, comments, feelings, imagination, and speculation about human beings themselves. Talking about physical activities which may or may not involve sexual organs, hugging, kissing, masturbation, sexual intercourses and so on, for purposes of pleasure or reproduction is considered sex. Sex refers to human anatomic structures called sex organs or sexual organs that play a role in reproduction or sexual pleasure (Rathus, 2009: 4).

In the second wave feminist theory, sex taken to be a universal biological and gender is a cultural variable (Brook, 1997: 190). For feminist, the discussion of biological sex differences is critical because women's anatomy has been seen as determining their destiny. Feminist perspective begins with understanding of women's status as socially, not biologically (Margaret, 1983: 22).

The British social scientist Christ Weddon (1987) (in Mandell, 1995:4) in Agustina (2012:UMS) state that feminism is a politics directed at changing existing power relations between woman and man in the

society. It is started by developing of patriarchy sistem that stacs a system characterized by power, dominance, hierarchy, and competition. In patriarchy, a social system places a man as a superior and woman is a inferior. It means that the system depends on the men. The woman is exploited easly and they do not have opportunity to show up their ability the society.

Sexual orientation refers to the sex of someone that is sexually and romantically attracted. The categories of sexual orientation typically have included attraction to members of one's own sex (gay men or lesbians), attraction to members of the other sex (heterosexuals), and attraction to members of both sexes (bisexuals). Sexuality is generally taken to refer to the social experience and expression of physical bodily desires, real or imagined, by others, for others, or for oneself. It encompasses erotic desires, identities and practices (Abbott, 2005: 198). Kissing, hugging, erotic feeling, manual manipulation of genital, and oral genital contact are all sexual behaviors that can provide sensual simulation (Rathus, 2009: 4).

Saman novel is written by Ayu Utami. It is appeared in May 1998, only a few weeks before the fall of Suharto. This novel is an omen of the changing cultural and political landscape in Indonesia. It is very interesting to be read because this novel reveals some important issues such as sex deviation, politic in Suharto's regime, and also belief to the God. *Saman* describes the lives of four female friends and a former Catholic priest, *Saman*. It deals explicitly with themes of sexuality that is

considered taboo for women writers in Indonesia at that time. Ayu Utami also writes about the mysticism and supernatural in this novel. She has said that the stories portray some of her personal experience, such as her loss of religion which is reflected by the priest, *Saman*. Utami also includes passages reflecting the destructiveness of Suharto's political authoritarianism. This novel has sold over 100.000 copies and been reprinted 34 times with new covers and notes for changing times.

Saman has won several awards, including the 1998 Jakarta Arts Council Novel Competition that caused a sensation and controversy among Indonesian intellectuals and artists. *Saman* also won the Prince Claus Award 2000 from the Prince Claus Fund, a foundation based in The Hague, which has a mission to support and promote activities in the field of culture and development. It was acclaimed by many reviews and was considered a new milestone in Indonesian literature and *Saman* has been translated into six languages.

Saman novel was written by Ayu Utami, a young female of Indonesia. Justina Ayu Utami or Ayu Utami was born in Bogor, West Java, 21st November 1968. Now she works in the cultural journal Kalamandat Teater Utan Kayu. She has been a journalist in some magazines namely, Matra, Humor, Forum Keadilan, and D&R. He displays considerable heroine the amount of the novel that she wrote. She finished studying Russian literature in University of Indonesia. She is an activist, journalist and novelist in Indonesia. She established the Alliance

of Independent Journalists protesting against the banning. Ayu Utami continued her journalistic work underground, which included the anonymous publication of a black book on corruption in the Soeharto regime.

In addition, She has written some works such as novels, short-stories, and articles. Her first novel, *Saman*, getting rave reviews from many critics and is Considered to provide a new color in Indonesian literature. By writing about sex and politics, Ayu Utami formerly depicts issues forbidden to Indonesian women. Her change is Referred to as literary fragrance. In the novel *Saman* many eastern societies invite In response, particularly controversial issue of sexuality is disclosed in the novel. Novel *Saman* talked about organ woman's most intimate and talk about sexual issues, especially on the female characters.

In Novel *Saman*, Ayu Utami showed courage in telling about the existence of the female sex and packaging about the story and sex which is completely different. It can be said that This novel boldly against taboos that exist in society are loaded with conversions culture.

Novel *Saman* an exciting novel to be researched, This novel discusses the sexual behavior of his characters. The Figures are Cok, Yasmin, Saman, Shakuntala, Upi, and Laila. Cok behave immorality. Yasmin has immorality behavior and adultery. Laila has adultery behavior. Shakuntala has bisexual behavior and immorality. Upi has masturbation

behavior, zoophilia and experiencing rape behavior. These behaviors constitute sexual behavior.

Her second novel, *Larung*, a continuation of the series of novel *Saman* was published in 2001. Seven years later, Ayu generates novel *Bilangan Fu*, after publishing her collection of essays “*SiParasitLajang*” (Gagas Media, 2003) according to Libriani Ika 2014 in Luluk (2015: UMS)

In *Saman*, Ayu Utami weaves together the twin stories of Indonesian feminist awakening and resistance to neo-colonial policies that devastated farmers and villagers during the Suharto regime. She describes the destructiveness of Suharto’s political authoritarianism during “New Order”. The structure of the novel is complex, moving backwards and forwards in time from the 1990s to the 1980s and 1960s and among a variety of narrative points of view. This kind of writing is considered a new style by some experts (Bandel, 2006: 105).

SAMAN (1998) is a story that described oppression of plantation workers in South Sumatra. The main character of *Saman* arouse as the hero by his struggle in fighting for the low class society’s right. It is story of exploration of female sexuality and a story about love in all its guises by the four women characters. *SAMAN* (1998) reveals some Indonesia's taboos, they are related to sexuality, political repression, the relationship between people with others who had different religion, and the relationship of people between elf and God (Wulandari, 2014: 3).

The main figure in *SAMAN* (1998) novel is Athanasius Wisanggeni or *Saman*, someone that is really religious, drudge and more accentuate friendship. He was a priest. There were many things that must be faced, most concern on how the grinds of high level people in money measure that assume as subordinate people. He assisted low economics society in plantation of rubber area. Wisanggeni did things to uphold a justice, but he had to face various heavy obstacles. The hard challeng to empower the society there. Then he felt in love with a backward mental girl, Upi. In Wisanggeni himself, it exists a strange power that can help him at emergency time, this happened several times, and the last one was when he tried to escape from the raging fire that burned the place where he jailed in. Then the condition in Medan did not safe anymore for him, because some demonstrations and economic crisis. Then he moved to Jakarta and changed his name to Saman. As time went by, Saman changed from religious to ordinary man. He had big doubt of God. He thought God did not help him when he was in a jail and faced many complicated problems. He owned love passion with woman, passion which should not be had by a priest. It is showed from the correspondences among Saman and Yasmin. In the correspondences, he really told that he felt in love and had made a love with Yasmin. At any 5 other story, this novel also tells relationship among figures, but not many, just a few figures that were bonded, they are Laila, Choke, and Shakuntala they are Yasmin's best friends. They had helped Saman to move to a safer place (Marching, 2007).

There are reasons why the researcher is interested in studying this novel. First, the researcher admires the bravery of Ayu Utami as *SAMAN* (1998) author. Second, the researcher wants to reveal discourse of sexuality in the novel. Third, the novel talked about women's position on that era. Fourth, the plot of the novel is interesting. Fifth, the issue of the novel is reflected well.

First, researcher admires the bravery of Ayu Utami as *SAMAN* (1998) writer. The writer thinks that Ayu Utami is a popular female writer in Indonesia. Most of her works are considered radical. They opposed Indonesian's Islamic review and social value, because they were talking about sexuality which is considered taboo. Second, the researcher wants to reveal discourse of sexuality in the novel. There are many conversation about sex, which are very vulgar. Even some Indonesian writers have given some critiques for this novel. The sex phenomena described in *SAMAN* (1998) are premarital and extramarital sex, immorality, promiscuity, masturbation and rape.

The third reason is that the novel talked about women's position on that era. *SAMAN* (1998) became possible to challenge the normative standards of authoritarianism, militarism, and monolithic thinking of Suharto's New Order. *SAMAN* (1998) has pushed the boundaries of public representations of sex, social roles, individual identity, and family life, capturing the Indonesian urban public's attention as well as adding grist for public debates about pornography and the limits of artistic expression.

The fourth reason is that the plot of the novel is interesting. The writer of the novel aroused the problem from unpredictable part of the novel. The readers can't guess the crucial problem before they finish reading the novel, instead they read the summary. Fifth, the main issue of the novel is reflected well. *SAMAN* (1998) is very popular with its issues of the sexual phenomena.

The researcher used the a feminist approach to analyze the discourse of sexuality in this novel. By doing so, the researcher gives the title: *SEXUALITY REFLECTED AT AYU UTAMI'S SAMAN (1998) : A FEMINIST APPROACH*.

B. Literature Review

Before the researcher begins to discuss sexuality reflected in detail, the researcher will explain some researches as the references for the readers in order the readers can investigate the similarity and differences between those researcher and the research that will be done by writer. There are many related researchers conducted by Fitria Dessi Wulandari (2014), Ika Libriani (2014), Lusiana Nety Harwati (2012), Oktavita (2009), Ratnawati Emi (2014), Marching Soe Tjen (2007), Serunai Mentari (2012), Nadia Damayanti (2007), Derry Oktavianthy (2008), Umiatun Sa'diyah (2008)

1. Fitria Desi Wulandari study (2014)

Fitri Desi Wulandari's study (2014) is entitled *Sexual Taboo Reflected in Ayu Utami's Saman Novel (1998): A Feminist*

perspectiv. The study analysis is done by determining three objects: the first is describing social background of Indonesia in twentieth century, the second is analyzing the novel based on the structural elements, and the third is analyzing the issue based on feminist perspective. Based on the research, the researcher pulls the following conclusions. First, the structural element of the novel described the character and characterization, setting of time and place, plot, point of view, and theme. All of them are correlated to each other forming unity. Second, based on feminist perspective, sexual taboo was revealed with other descriptions of women's participation, women's right, women's.

2. Ika Libriani (2014)

The Second is study which was conducted by Ika Libriani (UMS, 2014) Entitled "Freedom Of Thought In *Saman* Novel By Ayu Utami (1998): A Genetic structuralism Approach". This study is aimed to show freedom of thought which is represented by all major and some minor characters in *Saman* novel by using genetic structuralism approach. It is done by establishing two objectives: the first is analyzing the novel based on its structural elements and the second is analyzing the novel based on the genetic structuralism approach. This research is descriptive qualitative research. In this method, there are two types of data sources, namely primary and secondary data source. The primary data source is *Saman* novel written by Ayu Utami and translated by Pamela Allen in 2005. Meanwhile the secondary data sources are other materials taken from

books, journals, and internet related to the study. Both data are collected through library research and analyzed by descriptive analysis. Based on the analysis, the researcher draws the following conclusions. First, based on the structural analysis of each element, it shows that the character and characterization, setting, plot, point of view, style, and theme are related to each other and form a unity of good novel. Second, based on the genetic structuralism approach, there is a close relationship between the novel and the realities of Indonesian life. The novel is as an object in which the author presents her world view.

3. Lusia Nety Harwati (2012)

The third research about *Saman* novel is conducted by Lusia Nety Harwati, a Brawijaya University student, in her article published on March 17, 2012 entitled “*Saman: Is It A Gratuitous Pornography?*”.

She concludes that Ayu Utami’s *Samanis* considered as an Indonesian controversial novel because of its openness in depicting sexual problem. Several seniors and well-known Indonesian writers criticize *Samanas* a gratuitous pomography. Indeed, some scenes in the novel signify the sexual freedom of its characters. It seems, however, that such criticisms fail to appreciate scope, such as political repression and the place of spirituality and religion in contemporary lives. She concludes that sexuality openness shown in the novel is only a means to reveal the real situation in Indonesian society at that time.

4. Oktavita (2009)

The next research is study which was conducted by Oktavita (UMS,2009) entitled *Perilaku Seksual Dalam Novel Saman Karya Ayu Utami:Tinjauan Paikologi Sastra*. This study describes sexual disorientations and reveals complex sexual behavior in *Saman* novel.

Based on the descriptions, the researchers above are different with the writer because the first, second and third research. The writer here wants to conduct a study on Ayu Utami's *Saman* novel basen on genetic structuralism perspective. The writer focuses on the reflection of the freedom of thought in *Samannovel*. The similarity of these researches is the use of *Saman* novel (1998) as the data source.

5. Ratnawati, Emy (2009)

The next research is study which was conducted by Emy Ratnawati (UMS,2009) entitled *Social deviation reflected in Saman Novel (1998) by Ayu Utami's: A Sociological approach*. This research is proposed to analyze how the social deviation is reflected in *Saman* Novel (1998) by Sociological Approach.

There are two objectives: the first is to analyze the structural elements of the novel by finding character and characterization, setting, point of view, plot, style and theme, and the second is to analyze the novel based on sociological perspective by identifying the relationship between the novel and the social background of Indonesian society. This study uses qualitative method in which the data are taken from both

primary and secondary data source in form of words, sentence and phrases. Primary data source is the *Saman* novel by Ayu Utami, while secondary data sources are other sources related to the primary data. Data collecting method in this study is library research, and in analyzing the data researcher employs descriptive analysis. Based on the analysis, the researcher draws some conclusions as follows. First, there is a close relationship between the novel, *Saman* novel and the Indonesia social realities in the twentieth century. Second, Ayu Utami gives emphasis on the social deviation in Indonesia in the twentieth century. Third, the social realities of Indonesia contribute the creation of characters and characterization, setting, plot, and theme of the story.

6. Marching Soe Tjen (2007)

The next study is Article entitled *Description of Female Swxuality in Ayu Utami's Saman*, written by Marching Soe Tjen on February 2007, was published in Journal of Southeast Asian Studies. This article contains criticism from many writers in Indonesia towards this novel. The first from Pramudya Ananta Toer. He provided an endorsement of Ayu Utami on the back cover of *SAMAN*(1998) in a subsequent interview he declared that he could not stand reading, argued that the current group of young female Indonesian writers are competing with one another in term of sexual explicitness of their writings, a phenomenon that also disgusts him. The third, well-known Indonesian poet, Redra, expressed doubts about the originality of *SAMAN* (1998).

7. Serunai Mentari (2012)

Serunai mentari (2012) entitled *The Power Sexuality as Women's Inferiority over Men in Ayu Utami's Saman*. the essay stated that Ayu Utami succesfully voiced women's prespective on social issue that were once considered taboo. Ayu utami showed her personality as writer and her writing becomes very significant works of literature for the writer.

8. Nadia Damayanti (2007)

The next research is thesis about *Saman* novel that is conducted by Nadia Damayanti, student University of Muhammadiyah Malang, in her thesis published on January 16, 2007 entitled *An analysis of Saman's Psychological conflicts in Ayu Utami's novel "Saman"*.

This study focused on the aspects of *Saman's* psychological conflicts, namely: 1) what are *Saman's* psychological conflicts in Ayu Utami's novel "*Saman*"?, 2) what are the causes of *Saman's* psychological conflicts in Ayu Utami's novel "*Saman*"?, 3) what are the effect of *Saman's* psychological conflict in Ayu Utami's novel "*Saman*"?. This study used the descriptive qualitative research design because there was no treatment as in experimental research. In this study, the data were collected through conducting library research. Moreover, the writer employed objective approach because the writer just analyzed what exists in novel without correlating the author's life background. Then the data were analyzed based on the classification on *Saman's* psychological conflicts.

9. Derry Oktavianthy (2008)

The next research is thesis about *Saman* novel that is conducted by Derry Oktavianthy, student University of Muhammadiyah Malang, in her article published on October 25, 2008 entitled *An Analysis of social conflicts faced by Saman in Ayu Utami's novel "Saman"*.

In the study, the researcher used descriptive qualitative research design in which it was only purposed to describe and interpret what exist in the novel. Meanwhile, the technique used in this study was library research. Moreover, the writer employed objective approach because the writer just analyzed what exist in the novel without correlating the author's background. Later, the object of the study was Ayu Utami's novel.

10. Umiatun Sa'diyah (2008)

The next research about *Saman* novel is conducted by Umiatun Sa'diyah, student University of Muhammadiyah Malang, in her article published on 2008 entitled *kajian aspek tematik pada novel "Saman" karya Ayu Utami dan novel "Nayla" karya djenar maesa ayu*.

This research uses structuralisme approach. The researcher studies element of tematik to coheren with figure element and figure and also element groove and event as its basic data. A method which is used in this research is descriptive method qualitative. Data which is used in this research is in the form of set of story related to figure and figure, event

and path. Source of its data is novel *Saman* masterpiece Ayu Utami published by Kepustakaan Populer Gramedia Jakarta, in the year 1998.

C. Problem Statement

The problem statement of this research is “How is the sexuality reflected in *Saman* novel ?”

D. Limitation of the Study

In this study, the writer limits her study on sexuality reflected in *Saman* novel (1998) based on A Feminist Approach. The research will analyze Ayu Utami’s *Saman* novel based on the sexuality of the novel and to reveal sexuality that is reflected in *Saman* novel (1998) based on A Feminist Approach.

E. Objectives of the Study

The objectives of the study are mentioned as follows:

1. To analyze Ayu Utami’s *Saman* novel based on the sexuality of the novel
2. To reveal sexuality that is reflected in *Saman* novel (1998) based on A Feminist Approach

F. Benefit of the Study

The writer really hopes that his research on *Saman*(1998) has benefit.

The benefit of study will be distinguished into two benefits:

3. Theoretical Benefit

The result of this study is expected to be able to give information and contribution the development of the knowledge, particularly the literary theory especially a feminist approach toward *Saman* novel.

4. Partical Benefits

The result of this research hopefully will enrich knowledge and experience of the writer and another student of Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta or another University who have interest with literary study on the the novel from Feminist Approach.

G. Research Method

The research method is divided into five subs, (1) type of the study, (2) object of the study, (3) type data and data source, (4) technique of collecting data, and (5) method of analyzing data.

1. Type of the Study

In doing this research, the researcher uses qualitative research because she intends describing the structural element on *Saman* novel and analyzing sexuality reflected in *Saman* novel.

2. Object of the Study

The object of the study is sexuality Reflected in *Saman* novel (1998) directed by Ayu Utami's. It is analyzed by using a feminist approach.

3. Type of the Data and the Data Source

The data in this research are primary data and secondary data.

a. Primary Data Source

Primary data source in this research consist of data collected from Ayu Utami's *SAMAN* (1998) in English and Indonesian version.

b. Secondary Data

Secondary Data are taken from other which is related to the primary data that support the analysis such as book of literary, articles, internet, online journals, note, dictionary, and reference about *Saman* novel.

4. Technique of the Data Collection

The writer uses documentation as the method of collecting the data in this research. The steps are as follow.

- a. Reading *Saman* repeatedly.
- b. Browsing the internet to get several information and articles related to the object of the study.
- c. Indentify the problem and finding the data. Therefore, research problem statment and objective of the study can be drawn clearly.
- d. Taking notes of important thing both of primary and secondary data source.
- e. Arranging the data into several part based its clasification
- f. Selecting the data by rejecting the irrelevant information which does not support the topic of the study

5. Technique of the Data Analysis

The technique used in analyzing the data is descriptive analysis. It concerns with structural element of novel on sexual reflected in *Saman* by Ayu utami's (1998).

H. Research Paper Organization

The research paper organization of “sexuality reflected in *Saman* (1998)” is as follows: chapter I is Introduction, which consists of background of the study, literary review, problem statement, limitation of the study, objective of the study, theoretical approach, research method, and research paper organization. Chapter II comprises of underlying theory, which present Feminist Literary Criticism, Major Principle in Feminist, Theory of Motherhood, Structural Element of the novel, and Theoretical Application. Chapter III is the Structural Analysis that consists of Structural Elements of the Novel that includes Character and Characterization, Setting, Plot, Point of View, style and Theme of the Novel and Discussion. Besides that, this chapter also contains discussion of the Structural Elements of the Novel. Chapter IV deals with structural analysis of the novel, which involves the narratives element, technical elements, and discussion. Chapter V presents the Feminist analysis. Chapter VI presents Conclusion and Suggestion.